



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AM: DB20013-1037

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ORIGIN RP-10

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 IO-15 NEA-07 TRSE-00 CMS-01 SR-04
/037 R

DRAFTED BY RP/OPB: FMOS:MLC
APPROVED BY RP/OPB: FMCS
RP/ENE: PLYNCH (DRAFT)
NEA/PAB: DMURPHY
-----271731 090320Z /70
O 082134Z JAN 82
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS STATE 005412

E.O. 12965: N/A

TAGS: SREF, UNHCR

SUBJECT: UNHCR FUNDING OF GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
SALARIES FOR AFGHAN RELIEF PROGRAM

REF: BECK/MOSS TELECON

1. OLE VOLFFING, ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
REFUGEES, CALLED DEPARTMENT ON JANUARY 8 TO DISCUSS
PROPOSED SHORT TERM RESOLUTION OF GOP CIVIL SERVANT
SALARIES ISSUE. PURPOSE OF CALL WAS TO RESOLVE FINALLY
DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN JSG AND UNHCR ON THIS
IMPORTANT QUESTION.

2. VOLFFING RECOGNIZES QUOTE AMBIGUITY UNQUOTE OF UNHCR
EXCOM DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IN
PAKISTAN. IN LIGHT OF THIS, HE WILL BE PROPOSING TO
HIGH COMMISSIONER HARTLING THAT UNHCR FUND THE SALARIES
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FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31. THIS

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WILL INVOLVE UNHCR COMMITMENT OF ABOUT DOLS. 2 MILLION. WHILE HARTLING HAS NOT YET APPROVED THIS PROPOSAL (HE WILL RETURN FROM LEAVE ON 1/11), YOLFING IS CONFIDENT THAT PROPOSAL WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. UNHCR CAN FINANCE THIS OPTION FOR THIS THREE MONTH PERIOD WITHIN ITS EXISTING \$71 MILLION GENERAL PROGRAM BUDGET FOR PAKISTAN.

3. YOLFING STILL HOLDS TO THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE THAT THESE SALARY COSTS SHOULD NOT BE PART OF THE UNHCR PROGRAM. USG CONTINUES TO DISAGREE. YOLFING PROPOSES TO COMMIT MONEY FOR ONLY THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE YEAR IN HOPES THAT UPCOMING TRIPS BY HIGH COMMISSIONER HARTLING TO THE GULF STATES AND SAUDI ARABIA WILL RESULT IN BILATERAL FUNDS BEING PROVIDED FOR THIS PURPOSE. SHOULD THIS FUND RAISING PROVE UNSUCCESSFUL, US FULLY EXPECTS THAT UNHCR WILL CONTINUE TO MEET THESE SALARIES DURING BALANCE OF CALENDAR YEAR 1982.

4. FOR GENEVA - DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT YOU INFORM YOLFING THAT HIS PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTABLE TO US. YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT OUR CONCERN CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF AVOIDING DISRUPTIONS IN THE AFGHAN RELIEF PROGRAM. YOU SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT WHILE UNHCR WILL USE FUNDS CONTRIBUTED BY THE US TO MEET COST OF THE CIVIL SERVANT SALARIES DURING THE JANUARY-MARCH PERIOD, WE WILL NOT ASSUME THIS RESPONSIBILITY BILATERALLY. NOR DO WE EXPECT THAT THE UNHCR WILL USE ONLY USG DONATED FUNDS FOR THIS ACTIVITY IF BILATERAL INITIATIVES OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER PROVE UNSUCCESSFUL. YOU SHOULD ALSO EMPHASIZE OUR BELIEF THAT IF BILATERAL INITIATIVES FAIL, UNHCR MUST CONTINUE TO FUND SALARIES.

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4. FOR ISLAMABAD - YOLFING ALSO REPORTED THAT UNHCR GENEVA UNDERSTANDS FROM ITS OWN PERSONNEL IN PAKISTAN THAT EMBASSY HAS DISCUSSED WITH LOCAL UNHCR PERSONNEL, AND POSSIBLY GOP OFFICIALS, SUBSUMING INLAND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES INTO UNHCR GENERAL PROGRAM FOR PAKISTAN. IF EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SUCH EXPENSES SHOULD BE FUNDED THROUGH THE GENERAL PROGRAM, PLEASE PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH YOUR RATIONALE AND ESTIMATE OF DOLLAR REQUIREMENTS. UNTIL DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED THIS

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MATERIAL. PLEASE ASSUME A NEUTRAL POSITION ON INCLUDING
INLAND TRANSPORTATION IN UNHCR GENERAL
PROGRAM IN ANY DISCUSSION YOU MAY HAVE WITH UNHCR OR GOP
OFFICIALS. (RP/ : 1136E) HAIG

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